

REMARKS

Claims 1, 13, 17-19, 21, and 24 have been amended. Claims 8, 10, and 22 have been canceled without prejudice. Thus, Claims 1-7, 9, 11-21, and 23-24 are pending in the present application.

Objections to the drawings:

The Examiner objected to the drawings because the reference characters are not labeled in figures 1-4. Applicant submits proposed non-formal drawings for consideration and approval by the Examiner.

Claim objections:

The Examiner objected to claim 19. Applicant amended claims 18, 19, 21, and 24 because these claims contained the wrong reference. These claims are show now the correct claim dependencies.

Claim rejection under 35 USC §102:

The Examiner rejected claims 1-6, 13, and 17 under 35 USC §102(e) as being anticipated by Nguyen. Applicant amended the independent claim 1, 13, and 17 to more clearly define the present invention.

The present invention is related to automation system software which requires constant monitoring of current information provided by the system. To this end the system provides for a display with a primary display region to provide for areas in which, for example, debug information or running variables are displayed. According to the invention a peripheral display region is provided which includes message indicators superimposed over that peripheral region. Once a user activates such an indicator, the system will display the respective message. According to the present invention, a pop-up window will be placed in the primary display region in such a way that it does not obstruct information displayed in the primary display region.

The reference Nguyen is related to general software application and does not mention automation systems. Thus, this reference is not concerned with the specific problems

and requirements of an automation software. Moreover, Nguyen does neither mention nor provide for a non-obstructive pop-up window function which is used to display specific information to the user of an automation system.

The specific non-obstructive display function is in particular described in the specification of the non-provisional application on page 16, line 23 to page 17, line 1. Thus, no new matter has been added.

The dependent claims include all the limitations of the present independent claims. Applicant believes that the independent claims are not anticipated by the prior art and, therefore, defers any discussion of obviousness with respect to these claims. These claims include all the limitations of the independent claims and are therefore patentable at least to the extent of the independent claims.

CONCLUSION

The application as defined in the pending claims is patentable under 35 U.S.C. §103 in view of the cited prior art. Therefore, applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection and allowance of all pending claims.

Applicants do not believe that any other fees are due at this time; however, should any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be required for any reason relating to this document, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct the fees from Deposit Account No. 02-0383, (*formerly Baker & Botts, L.L.P.*,) Order Number 071308.0414.

Date: July 7, 2004

BAKER BOTTS, L.L.P.

By: 

Andreas H. Grubert

(Limited recognition 37 C.F.R. §10.9)

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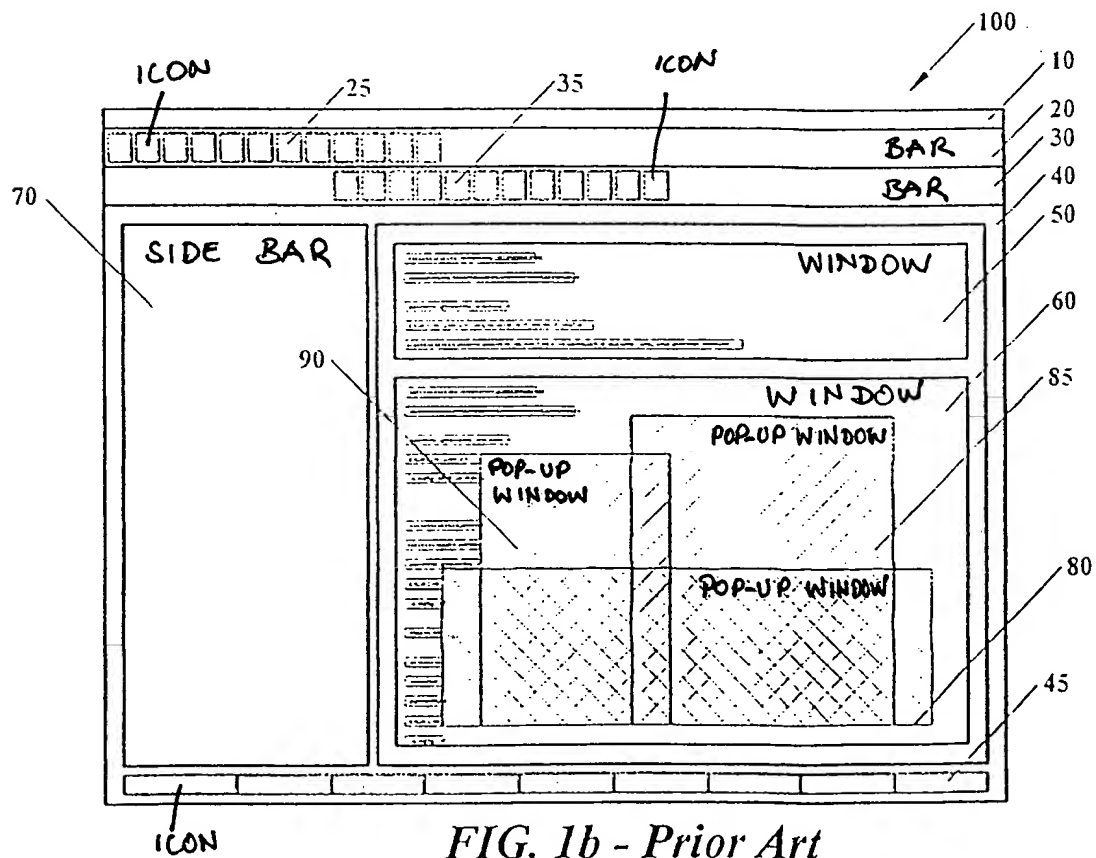
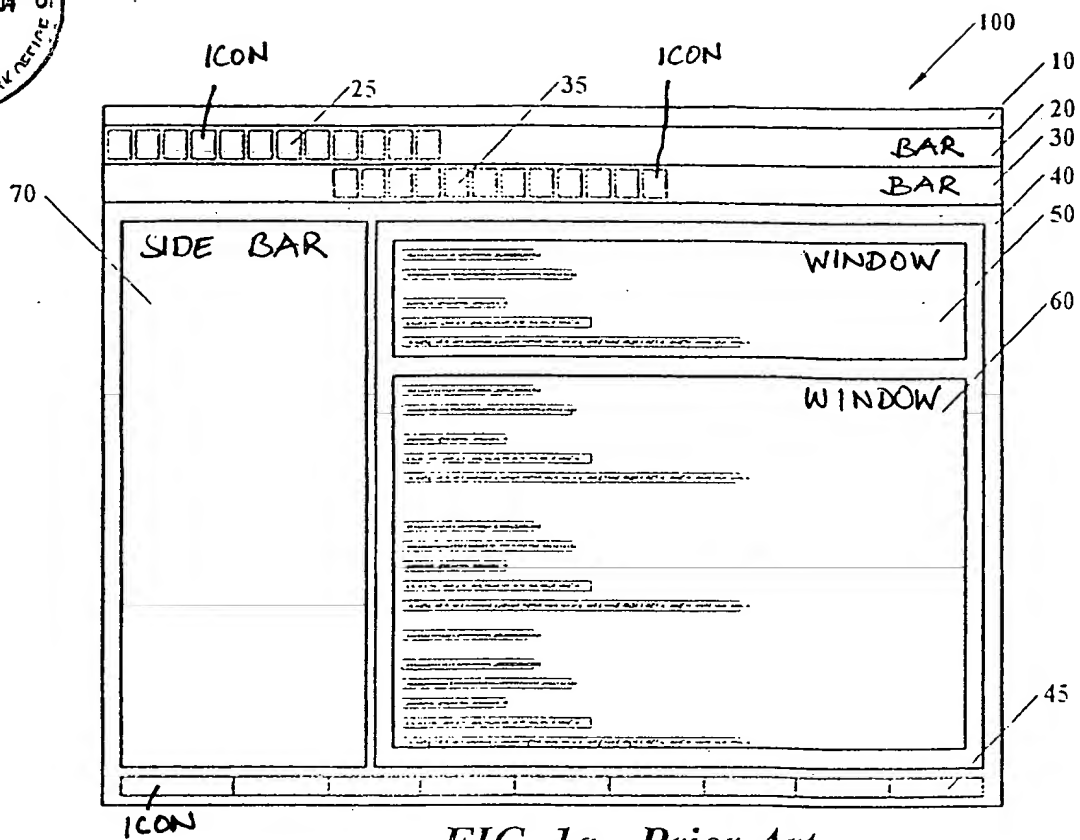
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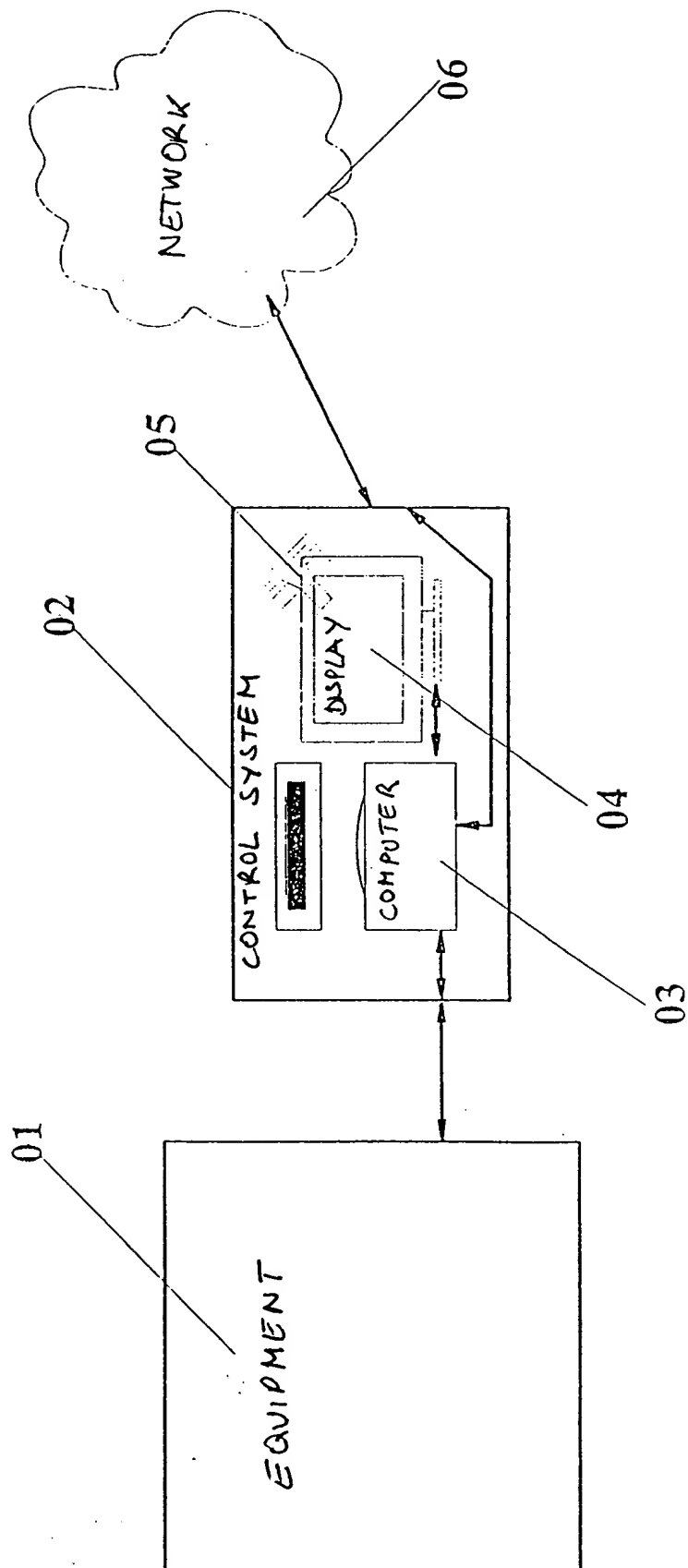


FIG. 2

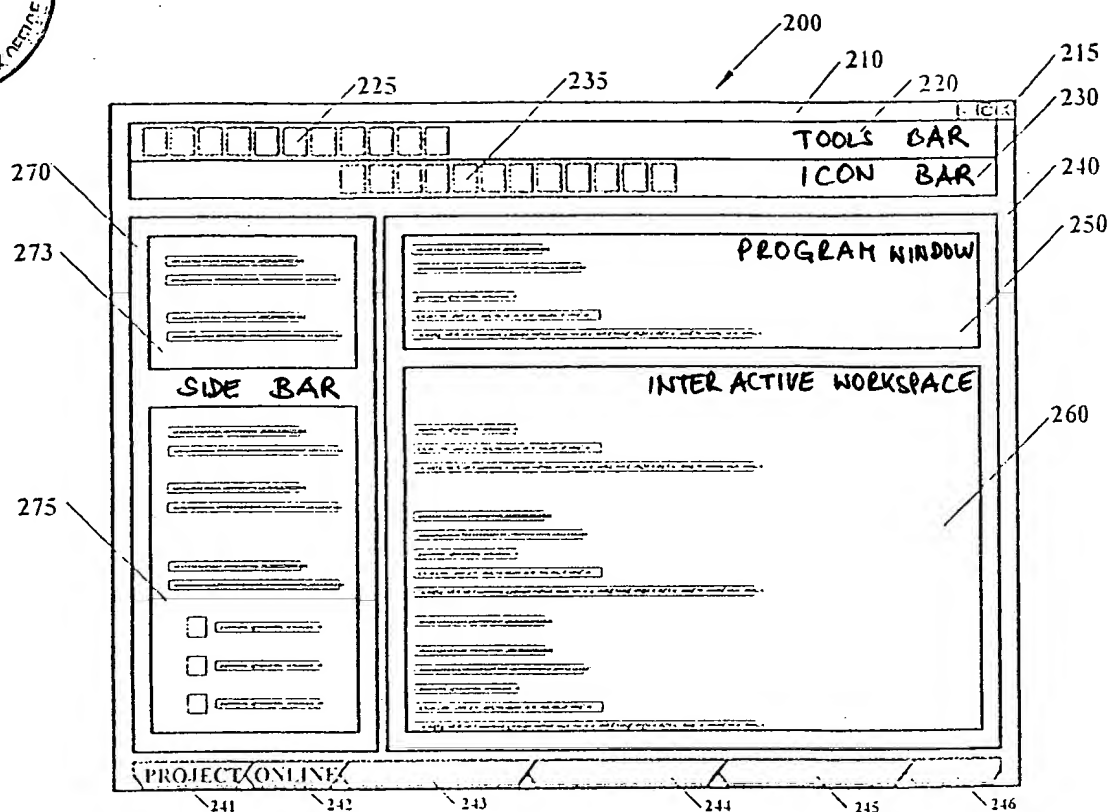


FIG. 3

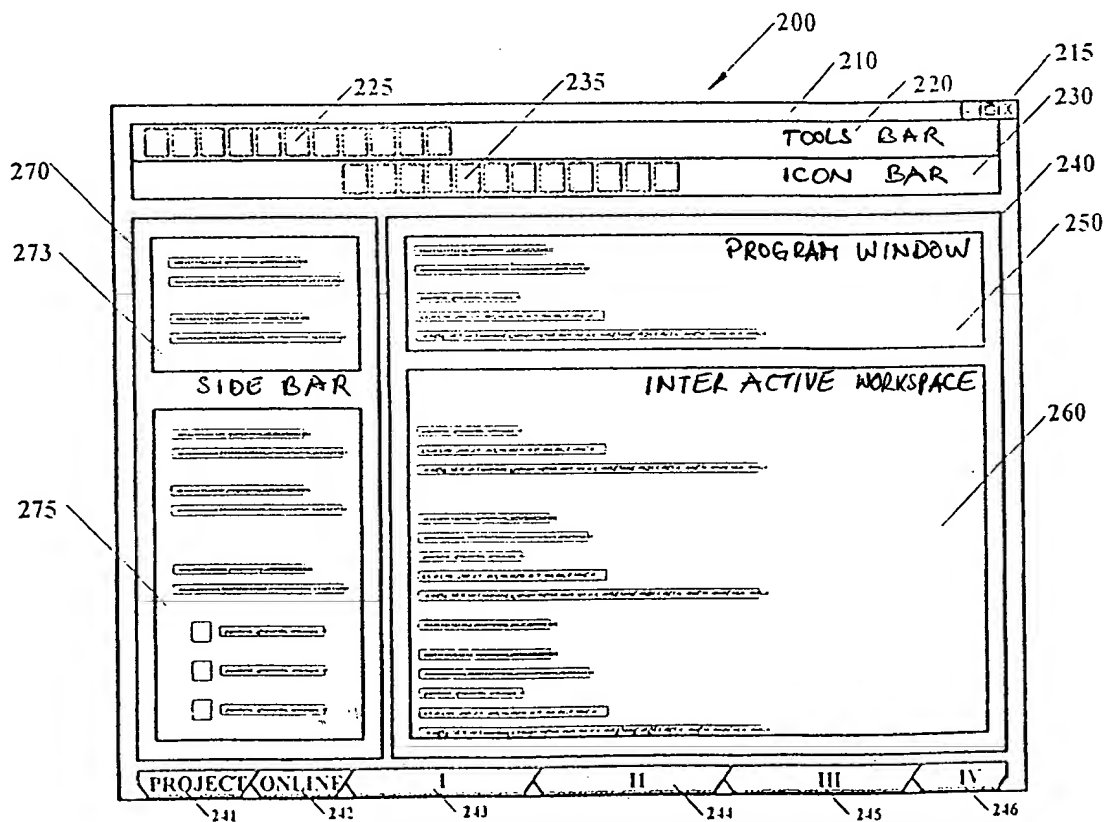


FIG. 4



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Expires: June 30, 2005

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